in the eyght Æglogue the ſame perſon was brought in, ſinging a Cantion of Co lins making, as he ſayth. So that ſome doubt, that the perſons be different.

VVhilome) ſometime. Oaten reedes) Auena.

Ligge ſo layde) lye ſo fayne and vnluſtye. Dapper) pretye.

Frye) is a bold Metaphore, forced from the ſpawning fiſhes. for the multitude of young fiſh be called the frye.

To reſtraine.) This place ſeemeth to conſpyre vvith Plato, who in his firſt booke de Legibus ſayth, that the firſt inuention of Poetry vvas of very vertuous intent. For at what time an infinite number of youth vſually came to theyr great ſolemne feaſtes called Panegyrica, vvhich they vſed euery fiue yeere to hold, ſome learned man being more hable thē the reſt, for ſpeciall gyftes of wytte and Muſicke, vvould take vpon him to ſing fine verſes to the people, in prayſe eythet of vertue or of victory or of immortality or ſuch like. At whoſe wonderful gyft al men being aſtonied and as it vvere rauiſhed, vvith delight, thinking (as it was indeed) that he vvas inſpired from aboue, called him vatem: vvhich kinde of men aftervvarde framing their verſes to lighter muſick (as of muſick be many kinds, ſome ſadder, ſome lighter, ſome martiall, ſome heroical: and ſo diuerſely eke affect the mynds of mē) found out lighter matter of Poeſie alſo, ſome playing vvyth loue, ſome ſcorning at mens faſhions, ſome povvred out in pleaſures, and ſo vvere called Poetes or makers.

Sence bereaue) vvhat the ſecrete vvorking of Muſick is in the myndes of men, aſvvell appeareth hereby, that ſome of the auncient Philoſophers, and thoſe the moſte vviſe, as Plato and Pythagoras held for opinion, that the mynd vvas made of a certaine harmonie and muſicall nombers, for the great compaſſion & likenes of aſſection in thone and in the other as alſo by that memorable hiſtory of Alexander: to vvhom vvhen as Timotheus the great Muſitian playd the Phrygian melodie, it is ſaid, that he vvas diſtraught vvith ſuch vnvvonted fury, that ſtreight vvay ryſing from the table in great rage, he cauſed himſelfe to be armed, as ready to goe to vvarre (for that muſick is very vvar like:) And immediatly when as the Muſitian chaunged his ſtroke into the Lydian and Ionique harmony, he vvas ſo furr from warring, that he ſat as ſtyl, as if he had bene in mattes of counſell. Such might is in muſick. vvherefore Plato and Ariſtotle forbid the Aradian Melodie from children and youth. for that being altogither on the ſyft and vij, tone, it is of great force to molifie and quench the kindly courage, vvhich vſeth to burne in yong breſts. So that it is not incredible which the Poete here ſayth, that Muſick can bereaue the ſoule of ſence.

The ſhepheard that) Orpheus: of whom is ſayd, that by his excellent ſkil in Muſick and Poetry, he recouered his wife Eurydice from hell.

Argus eyes) of Argus is before ſaid, that Iuno to him committed hir huſband Iupiter his Paragon Iô, bicauſe he had an hundred eyes: but afterwarde Mercury vvyth hys Muſick lulling Argus aſlepe, ſlevv him and brought Iô away, vvhoſe eyes it is ſayd that Inno for his eternall memory placed in her byrd the Peacocks tayle. for thoſe coloured ſpots indeede reſemble eyes.

VVoundleſſe armour) vnvvounded in warre, doe ruſt through long peace.

Diſplay) A poeticall metaphore: vvhereof the meaning is, that if the Poet liſt ſhovve his ſkill

ſkill in matter of more dignitie, then is the h
him offered of higher veyne and more Heroi
moſt gratious ſoueraign, vvhō (as before) he
hoode and cheualrie pleaſe him better, tha
men, that are both vvorthy of his payne in th
uourers of hys ſkil and faculty.

The vvorthy) he meaneth (as I gueſſe) the moſt ho
Leyceſter, vvhō by his cogniſance (althoug
rather then by his name he bevvrayeth, bein
ble princes be knovvn to country clovvne.

Slack) that is vvhen thou chaungeſt thy verſe from ſt
pleaſaunce and delight.

The Millers) a kind of daunce.

The Romiſh Tityrus) vvel knowē to be Virgile, vvho
into the ſauonr of the Emperor Auguſtus, an
kinde, then he erſt had doen.

VVhereon) in theſe three verſes are the three ſeuerall
teaching his flocks to feede, is meant his Æg
Bucoliques. In ſinging of vvars and deadly d

In derring doe) In manhoode and cheualrie.

For euer) He ſhevveth the cauſe, vvhy Poetes vvere v
men; that is, that by them their vvorthines &
Poſies be cōmended to al poſterities. vvher
uer bene ſo famous, as he is, but for Homeres
aduantage, vvhich he had of Hector. And alſ
to his tombe in Sigeus, vvith naturall teare
to be honoured vvith ſo excellent a Poets w
onely by hys meanes. vvhich being decl
Tullies, is of Petrarch no leſſe worthely ſett

Giunto Alexandro a la famoſa tomba
Del fero Achille ſoſpirando diſſe
O fortunato che ſi chiara tromba. T

And that ſuch account hath bene alvvayes m
that the vvorthy Scipio in all his vvarres ag
euermore in his company, and that in a m
Ennius: as alſo that Alexander deſtroying T
the famous Lyrick Poet Pindarus vvas born
ded ſtreightly, that no man ſhould vpon pay
houſe by fire or othervviſe: but alſo ſpecially
ded, that vvere of hys kinne. So fauoured he
prayſe otherwiſe vvas in the ſame man no l
ranſacking of king Darius coffers, vvhom he
in a little coffer of ſiluer the two bookes of
ſpeciall ievvells and richeſſe, vvhich he takin
his boſome, and thother euery night layde v